

ICOM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ART

GENERAL MEETING 1982

RIJKSMUSEUM, AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

9 & 10 SEPTEMBER 1982

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER

- 10.00-12.00 Meeting of the Executive Board of ICFA.
(Meeting only open to members of the Executive Board).
- 14.00-15.00 Plenary Session of ICFA
(Meeting only open to all members of ICFA, who should see attached list for details).
- 15.15-17.15+ General Meeting
(Meeting open to all members of ICOM as observers, but only members of ICFA may cast a vote in any vote held).

FRIDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER

- 9.00-12.30 General Meeting
(Admission as above)
- 14.00-16.00 Meeting of the Executive Board of ICFA
(Meeting only open to members of the Executive Board).

THEME OF GENERAL MEETING

THE COLLECTING ACTIVITIES OF FINE ART MUSEUMS

- (a) Inquiry into collecting policies
- (b) Inquiry into impact of Import and Export controls with special reference to the extent to which a nation's works of fine art should be retained by their country of origin.
- (c) Exchange of information regarding the market manipulation of fine art objects.
- (d) Exchange of information regarding fakes and forgeries.
- (e) Inquiry into the problems posed by de-accessioning, sharing, long term loans and exchanges.

The basis for the discussion will be the papers being prepared by the various geographical working groups on these themes. Copies of the papers will be circulated prior to the meeting so that colleagues may consider their response in advance of the meeting. It is proposed to publish the results of the deliberations as a working paper.

ICOM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ART

PLENARY SESSION : 9 SEPTEMBER 1982 @ 14.00

AGENDA

1. Approval of membership applications.

2. Consideration of changes to internal rules.

The internal rules of ICFA were approved by the Executive Council of ICOM at its 50th Session in Paris, June 1981, with the exception of rules 6 (b) and 7 (d).

(i) Amend rule 6 (b) so that the final sentence reads "Such co-opted members may not exceed 10% of the total of the working group's membership". (The figure was previously 40%)

(ii) Amend rule 7 (d) to read

"Accounts will be the subject of an independent annual audit, the financial year to begin on first of January".

(The date was previously the first of July)

It is believed that these changes will meet with the requirements of the Executive Council of ICOM. The rules of International Committees are in the course of general revision and the latest situation will be reported here.

3. ICOM '83.

4. To consider any other appropriate business.

ICOM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ART
(ICFA)

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD 9 & 10
SEPTEMBER, 1982 AT THE RIJKSMUSEUM, AMSTERDAM

9th September, 1982
10.00 hrs.

Present: Mr. Timothy Clifford (Chairman)
Mr. George Breeze (Secretary)
Mr. Hervé Oursel (Treasurer)
Mme Irina Antonova, Mlle. Irène Bizot,
Dr. Per Bjurström, Dr. Gorel Cavalli-Björkman,
Dr. Simon Levie, Mr. Christopher Till.

Apologies for absence received from

Dr. Vitali Souslov, Mr. Ian McKibbin White.

INTRODUCTION

- 1(a) The Chairman thanked Dr. Simon Levie, our host, for enabling the Committee to hold its meeting at the Rijksmuseum. He also congratulated Dr. Levie on becoming a member of the Executive Council of ICOM. He then proceeded to congratulate Mlle. Irene Bizot on being chosen Treasurer-Elect of ICOM and to reiterate the thanks of the Executive Board to Dr. Per Bjurstrom and Dr. Gorel Cavalli-Bjorkman for all their hospitality and helpfulness over the Board meeting in Stockholm earlier this year, together with the excursions they organised.
- (b) It was noted that the ad hoc Committee for Exhibition Exchanges had been declared a permanent Committee of ICOM by the Executive Council of ICOM.

MEMBERS

- 2(a) The resignation from the Executive Board of Mr. Dirk de Vos was noted and Dr. Jean Sutherland Boggs and Dr. James Pilgrim were proposed and endorsed as new members of the Board.
- (b) The Board spent some time discussing potential new members for the Committee.
- (c) The membership of the following was approved
Mr. John Rowlands (British Museum, London), Mr. Martin Royalton-Kisch (British Museum, London), Mr. Julian Treuherz (City Art Galleries, Manchester), Dr. P.J. Van Thiel (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam), Mlle. Françoise Viatte (Musée du Louvre, Paris), M. Pierre Georgel (Musée des Beaux-Arts, Dijon).
- (d) The following members of the Board undertook to pursue the membership of the following:
Mr. Timothy Clifford - Professor Michael Jaffe (Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge).
New Zealand and Australian members.
Mlle Irène Bizot - Dr. Klara Garas and other staff of the Szépművészeti Múzeum, Budapest.

Dr. Simon Levie - Italian and German members for the Committee.

Mr. Ian McKibbin White - Japanese member (the Director of the Museum of Modern Art was not felt to be eligible by virtue of the nature of his post).

Dr. Gorel Cavalli-Bjorkman - Staff of the Prado, Madrid.

SCOPE

3. The range of subject matter and time span covered by the Committee was again discussed and the decision taken at Stockholm confirmed:
- (i) - Painting
 - Sculpture, including medals
 - Graphic Art, including architectural drawings and cartoons for tapestries.
 - (ii) - Western Art from the Middle Ages to the end of the nineteenth century.
 - (iii) - These definitions can be expanded later on with the growth of the Committee, as members wish, into e.g. Oriental and African Art through appropriate Sub-Committees.

RULES

4. Members had no further comments to make on the proposed rule changes as set out in ICFA 82/7.

FUNDING

5. Dr. Simon Levie, as President of the ICOM Foundation, advised the Committee that the Foundation only gives money on the recommendation of the Executive Board of ICOM. The Treasurer said that the following funds were available to the Committee:

Remaining from 1981 Subvention:	\$U.S. 320.46
Subvention for 1982	\$U.S. 500.00
Total	<u>\$U.S. 820.46</u>

The main object of spending these funds would be the working document on collecting policies. It was decided that each country would provide the Chairman with copies of their report in both French and English so that as much as possible of the funds could be spent on publishing the working document itself.

REPORTS

6. The last moment for receipt of reports on collecting policies would be 1st January, 1983. Any received by the Chairman after that date would sadly have to be excluded. Mme. Antonova advised the Committee that her report was in hand. The British, Scandinavian, French and American and Sub-Saharan reports were tabled. It was thought imperative to try and obtain reports for Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Italy and Belgium; the Chairman would see what could be done about these.

TRIENNIAL PROGRAMME

7. The Triennial Programme as defined at the General Conference in Mexico City was considered. Section I was in course of being achieved. Section II was abandoned at the General Meeting in Paris in 1981 as set out in the Minutes of that meeting. It was decided to defer Section III since Section I was proving to be so interesting and worthwhile.

ICOM '83

8. The following headings for visits were proposed as part of the Committee's gathering at ICOM '83.

Heritage; British 18th Century Art; Historic Pictures Hanging & Display; Behind the Scenes of Print Rooms; Research Aids; Art Trade; Victoria and Albert Museum; Visits to Private Collections.

A post conference tour for ICFA members to North Western England was also discussed.

GENERAL
CORRESPONDENCE

9. The Chairman reported on the letter he and others had received from the Hubel Museum of Art regarding the provision of air-conditioning at Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan to protect Leonardo's Last Supper. It was decided to take no action in this matter.

10th September 1982
11.00 a.m.

The meeting of the previous day was resumed following the end of the general part of the meeting.

Present: Mr. Timothy Clifford (Chairman)
Mr. George Breeze (Secretary)
M. Hervé Oursel (Treasurer)
Mme. Irina Antonova, Mlle. Irène Bizot
Dr. Jean Sutherland Boggs, Dr. Gorel Cavalli-Bjorkman, Dr. Simon Levie, Dr. James Pilgrim, Mr. Christopher Till.

NEXT
EXECUTIVE
BOARD
MEETING

1. The place of the next meeting at Lille, and the approximate date in March, 1983, had already been agreed at Stockholm. It was now decided the business of the meeting would be conducted throughout 4th March, with excursions on 5/6 March 1983, probably to Dunkerque, Arras, St. Omer, Douai &c. The Treasurer, who had so kindly offered his museum as host for the meeting, would draw up a programme. A formal invitation to the meeting would then be circulated.

ICOM'83

2. The detailed draft plan for the ICFA meeting would be drawn up by the Chairman as delegated liaison officer with ICOM'83 Secretariat and would be submitted to the Lille Meeting for discussion. The means &c of election for the new Board for the next triennial period 1983-86 would also be discussed. The Chairman indicated that he and the Secretary proposed to stand down as holders of these offices at ICOM '83.

THANKS

3. The Chairman reiterated the thanks of the meeting to our host, Dr. Simon Levie, and looked forward to seeing everyone at Lille next March.

The meeting closed at 12.00 noon.

ICOM INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE
ART (ICFA)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE 9 & 10
SEPTEMBER, 1982 AT THE RIJKSMUSEUM, AMSTERDAM

9th September, 1982
14.00 hrs.

Present: Mr. Timothy Clifford (Chairman)
Mr. George Breeze (Secretary)
M. Hervé Oursel (Treasurer)
Mr. Martin Anglesea
Mme. Irina Atonova
Mlle. Irène Bizot
Dr. Jean Sutherland Boggs
Dr. Per Bjurström
Dr. Görel Cavalli-Björkman
Mme. Françoise Debaisieux
M. J. Kuhnmmunch
Dr. Simon Levie (for part)
Dr. Nina Parris
Dr. James Pilgrim
Mr. Christopher Till
Mr. P.J. Van Thiel

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Mr. A. Auld (ICFA), M. A. Bøe (ICFA), Mr. J. Holverson (ICFA), Mr. I. McKibbin White (ICFA), Ms. J.G. Rice (ICFA), Dr. V. Souslov (ICFA), M. D. de Vos (ICFA), Ms. J. Bridgland (Cons. Cttee), Mrs. J.R. Glaser (Training of Personnel Cttee), Mr. W.D. Hoheisel (IATM), M. P.A. Kjeldsberg (CIMCIM), Dr. M. Kunze (Literature Museums Cttee), Mr. A. Schouvaloff (SIBMAS), Mr. F.H. Schultz (Natural History Cttee), M. F. Sigaut (IAMA), Dr. C. Witt-Dorring (Applied Art Cttee),.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Second General Meeting of the Committee and opened its annual Plenary Session for 1982.

The Chairman reiterated to the membership in general the scope and terms of reference as agreed for the time being for the Committee

- (a) - Painting
 - Sculpture including medals
 - Graphic Art including architectural drawings and cartoons for tapestries.
- (b) - From Middle Ages to end of Nineteenth Century.
- (c) - Western Art at present only. With the further expansion of the Committee, Sub-Committees could be formed to consider e.g. Oriental and African art.

It was agreed it was not possible to expand the present area of discussion beyond these boundaries for the time being.

MEMBERSHIP 1.(a) Executive Board: The resignation from the Board of M. Dirk de Vos was reported. The following were proposed and unanimously approved as new members of the Board

- Dr. Jean Sutherland Boggs (National Museums of
Canada Construction, Ottawa)
- Dr. James Pilgrim (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)

- (b) **General Membership:** The following were proposed and unanimously approved, their applications having been endorsed by the Executive Board previously. No new names were proposed. The Chairman reported on the attempts being made by the Executive Board to continue to widen the membership still further.

Brazil: Mlle. Menendez Aranha

Canada: Dr. Jean Sutherland Boggs

Denmark: Mr. Friis Jespersen

France: M. Jean-Pierre Cuzin
M. Pierre Georgel
M. J. Kuhnunch
Mme. Madeleine Rocher-Jauneau
M. Claude Souviron
M. Patrick Ramade
Mlle. Françoise Viatte

Netherlands: Dr. P.J. Van Thiel

Norway: Mr. Knut Berg
Mr. Alf Bøe

Sweden: M. Torsten Gunnarson

United Kingdom: Mr. Martyn Anglesea
Mr. John Rowlands
Mr. Martin Royalton-Kisch
Mr. Julian Treuherz

United States of America: Dr. J. Carter Brown
Dr. Philippe de Montebello
Dr. James Pilgrim

Yugoslavia: Dr. Katarina Ambrozic

Individuals named above, present at the meeting, left it while the voting took place.

- RULE CHANGES 2. The Secretary reported that the revised model rules for International Committees of ICOM were still being considered by a select committee and the Executive Council of ICOM. Meanwhile the following internal rule changes were approved to meet the requirements of the Executive Council of ICOM (See document ICFA 82/7 giving notice of the proposed changes and other details; this document was circulated with the invitation to the meeting in accordance with the rules). No postal objections had been received to these two changes.

ICFA Internal Rules

Rule 6(b) now reads: "Such co-opted members may not exceed 10% of the total of the working group's membership".

Rule 7(d) now reads: "Accounts will be the subject of an independent annual audit, the financial year to begin on first of January".

ICOM '83

3. The Chairman pointed out that there would be receptions for the whole Conference at the National Gallery and British Museum, and that an excursion would be organised by river to Greenwich. A Conference visit to Hampton Court was also scheduled. Discussion then took place on visits under the various headings discussed at the Executive Board meeting in the morning.

These are:

- (i) Heritage: Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace;
Palace of Westminster; Banqueting Hall, Whitehall.
($\frac{1}{2}$ day walk).

- (ii) British 18th Century Art: Foundling Hospital; Science Museum; Somerset House; Royal Society of Arts. ($\frac{1}{2}$ day walk).
- (iii) Historic Picture Hanging & Display: Ham House; Apsley House (Wellington Museum); Wallace Collection (1 day by coach)
- (iv) Behind the Scenes: Print Rooms: British Museum; Victoria and Albert Museum. (Visit to include Conservation depts. ($\frac{1}{2}$ day by metro).
- (v) Research Aids: Courtauld Institute & Witt Library; R.I.B.A. & Heinze Gallery; Warburg Institute & Courtauld Gallery; National Monuments Record, Fortress House. ($\frac{1}{2}$ day walk).
- (vi) Art Trade: Christies; Hazlitt, Gordon & Fox; Heim; Agnew; Colnaghi; Sotheby's; Phillips. ($\frac{1}{2}$ day walk).
- (vii) Victoria & Albert Museum: The newly re-opened cast courts; Italian Renaissance Sculpture Collection; Raphael Cartoons. ($\frac{1}{2}$ day by metro).

It is hoped to visit various private collections including the Royal Collection; Duke of Northumberland at Syon, Brinsley Ford, Elliott Hodgkin or any others specially requested. The Chairman emphasised the enormous difficulties of visiting the private apartments of Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, but he undertook to see what could be done. He also emphasised the difficulty of admitting more than say 20 persons to private collections at a time.

It was agreed that the first priority would be in seeing private collections.

It was agreed to delete visits (i), (iv) and (vii) above and further to delete (ii) if private collections could be visited in the afternoon.

The ICOM '83 Secretariat has arranged for ICFA Meetings to take place during the mornings; it was proposed that visits (ii), (v) and (vi) would take place during three of the four afternoons available and that (iii) was of such importance and interest to the Committee that a whole day would be given over to it.

The Chairman then discussed a post conference tour exclusively for members of ICFA and their husbands/wives &c. This would be based on a hotel in Manchester and would visit the following important houses and collections: Chatsworth House; Hardwick Hall; Haddon Hall; Tatton Park; Tabley Hall; Capesthorpe Hall; City Art Gallery, Manchester; Whitworth Institute; Platt Hall; Town Hall, Manchester; Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool; Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight.

The tour would begin in the morning of Wednesday, 3rd August, and finish on Sunday, 7th August in time for delegates to return home for work on Monday.

It was agreed that the Chairman should represent ICFA on the Conference organisation Sub-Committee of the ICOM '83 Secretariat.

OTHER MATTERS 4. The Triennial Programme was discussed. Section I is in progress. The deletion of Section II was agreed at the General Meeting in Paris in 1981.

It was now agreed that Section III should be omitted but that members should think about it for ICOM '83. The text of Section III is as follows:-

Scholarship within Fine Art Museums
Exploration of the possibilities of curatorial staff exchanges between cultural and educational institutions both public and private.

There being no other business to discuss under the Plenary Session, the Chairman closed this part of the meeting.

GENERAL MEETING

9th September.

The General Meeting followed directly on from the Plenary Session.

It was decided to leave discussion of the theme «The Collecting Activities of Fine Art Museums» to the following day, so that everyone could have a chance to read the five reports now tabled: those of France, U.K., U.S.A., Scandinavia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Dr. Per Bjurström proposed that general points of interest should be discussed.

(i) Problems of lending works of fine art to touring exhibitions.

There was a discussion of the benefits to be gained by cost sharing, by wide exposure of a particular work to the public, by maximising investment in the catalogue.

On the other hand there are the problems of being without a major work for a long period, of the damage to a work by a long tour, by the curatorial time consumed by loans. There was always the possibility of lending to some venues of a tour but not others, though this was not a particularly happy solution. There could be a demand from the lender for a replacement work from the borrowing institution while the tour was in progress. The problem of reciprocal loans with exhibition organising bodies that did not have collections - or appropriate collections - from which to borrow a replacement was raised too.

(ii) New acquisitions exhibition at ICOM '83.

It was proposed that members of ICFA should produce slides and/or photographs of the fine art purchases (pre 1900) made by their Museums between 1980 and 1983

General Conferences of ICOM. Prints should be 18 x 24 cm and slides 35 mm. Such an exhibition would help to make points about collecting policies and provide an appropriate place to sell the working document on collecting activities.

OF

GENERAL MEETING ON THE COLLECTING ACTIVITIES/FINE ART MUSEUMS.

10th September

9.00 hrs.

Present: as the previous day, except for Dr. Per Bjurström.

The Chairman mentioned the discussion that had taken place in Stockholm in April on the written U.K. and Scandinavia reports and verbal French, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., and Sub-Saharan Africa reports.

The French Report, the most comprehensive presented, was discussed first by Mlle. Irène Bizot, M. Hervé Oursel, Mme. Françoise Debaisieux and M. J. Kuhnmmunch.

It was agreed that the actual mechanism of making a purchase on the lines of the appropriate Section of the French Report should be adopted for the other reports.

The problem of giving details of funds available for acquisitions was discussed. Where an institution had private funds it was not prepared to divulge, the State allocation alone - in the case of an National Museum for instance - would not give a true picture.

It was agreed that texts should be in both French and English, together with footnotes of sources. There should also be a bibliography for each country.

It was agreed that the layout of the working document would be such that each country would be presented as an integrity, each with a common layout, but that there would be a good index to facilitate cross references.

.....

Mme. Irina Antonova spoke of the Society policy. An outline report had already been prepared for Muscovite museums; this would be widened to cover the areas on which she is reporting by 1st January, 1983.

Mr. Christopher Till spoke on Western Art of Sub-Saharan Africa and the unknown but important collections that existed in the area.

Dr. Gorel Cavalli-Bjorkman agreed to expand the Scandinavian report in view of what Mlle. Irene Bizot had said about the French system.

Dr. James Pilgrim and Dr. Nina Parris expanded on the U.S.A. report provided by Mr. Ian McKibbin White. He thought there should be more on the public/private split in the origins of American institutions and how collecting policies had derived from this. He agreed to liaise with Mr. White on this and on broadening the references to deaccessioning since this is a particular feature of American museums in view of the distinctive manner in which the collections had grown.

Dr. Jean Sutherland Boggs agreed to disseminate Codex Musealis No. 1 which carried the collecting policies and procedures of the National Museums of Canada.

Dr. Simon Levie spoke of new legislation that was due to be introduced into the Netherlands regarding collecting activities of museums, though it would take a number of years to implement in view of the complex organisation of Dutch museums and their funding.

Mr. Martyn Anglesea spoke on the Irish dimension, emphasising the amicable North-South relations in the museums arena, with no intention of competition in their collecting activities between the North and South. He undertook to produce a report covering the whole of Ireland.

There being no further points to raise the meeting was closed.
